

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed November 17, 2006, the Examiner indicates that claims 1-10 are allowed; claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Rice (U.S. Patent No. 3,786,648); and claim 12 is "objected to". The foregoing rejection and objection are respectfully traversed.

Claim 12 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claim 11 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of cancelled claim 12.

Claims 1-11 are currently pending and under consideration. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Based upon the amendment to claim 11, the application should now be in condition for allowance. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection and objection is respectfully requested.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: _____

1/25/2007

By: _____

Deidre M. Davis

Registration No. 52,797

1201 New York Avenue, NW, 7th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501